



# New Nyanza barrels shown in '80 report

## State confusion puzzles Ashland officials

By Brian Sullivan

NEWS STAFF WRITER

ASHLAND — A 1980 state report details the location of the 250 barrels discovered last month at the Nyanza Superfund site.

The 250 barrels were discovered

during a search of the easterly side of Megunko Hill. That search was begun after a worker for Tricil Environmental Response Inc. unearthed the remains of several drums in what the Environmental Protection Agency thought

was an uncontaminated area of the site.

Last month, when asked why the EPA had not found the barrels before, federal site manager David Lederer said Megunko Hill is such a large area and is littered with debris.

According to the map, given to the Middlesex News by an anonymous source last night, the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering knew about the barrels in 1980.

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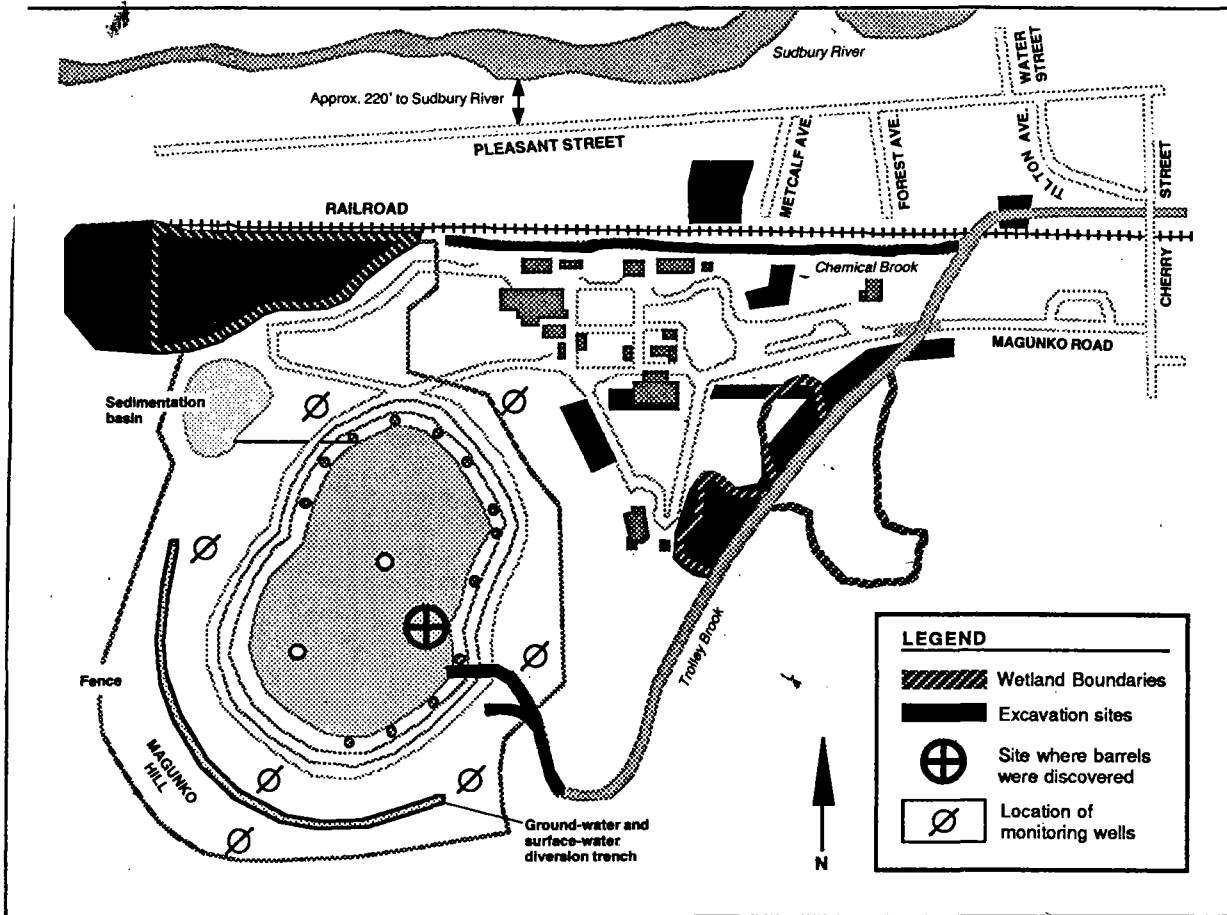
Superfund Records Center

SITE: Nyanza

DESK: 133

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT ELSE IS IN THERE?



NEWS MAP BY PAT CAPOBIANCO

# State report shows Nyanza barrels

## NYANZA, FROM 1A

Both Lederer and DEQE site manager Patricia Donahue were unavailable for comment.

Resident Claudia Lefter, Citizens Advisory Committee Chairwoman Bev Dort and Health Board Chairman Henry Fassler said they had all seen the map and a corresponding report.

"I'm angry," Dort said in a telephone interview. "All this commotion could have been prevented if they (the EPA) had done their job before."

Dort's sentiments were echoed by Fassler and Lefter.

"I'm concerned. These 250 barrels should not have been a surprise," Fassler said.

"I believe they (the EPA) should have done a little more research before. It's been around since 1980 — it's nine years old," Dort said.

"The original study seems to have found the barrels. I'm not sure what the problem was in the last eight years — something got lost," Lefter said.

All three are upset that as more of the barrels are discovered, it will drive up the cost of the cleanup.

Because of new finds are not in the cleanup contract, each additional find costs more money, they said.

Fassler said he is also concerned because other areas on the map showing toxins are not on current EPA cleanup maps.

He worried about what will be found behind the current Nyacol

administration building and on the north side of Megunko Road.

Both sites are detailed on the DEQE map as being contaminated areas.

Fassler said he brought the map to the attention of Lederer and Lederer told him would look into it.